

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph found at page 5, lines 31 through page 6, Line 3 to read:

B, An aspect of some embodiments of the invention relates to sensing and remotely indicating when certain spatial configurations of a bone borer are achieved. In an embodiment of the invention, when these configurations are sensed, a visual and/or audible indication is displayed to a surgeon. Alternatively or additionally, when these configurations are sensed, a function of the borer is locked and/or unlocked. One example of a sensed spatial configuration is an angle of the borer head relative to the bone. Another example is determining if two boring needles meet in the bone in a desired manner.

Please amend the paragraph found at page 22, lines 14 through 21 to read:

B2 Figs. 9A and 9B schematically illustrate a hinged single needle boring head 300, without an anvil, in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. Head 300 comprises a needle 302 connected to a hinge ~~[[304]]~~ 306 via a needle arm 304. In an embodiment of the invention, needle arm 304 also serves as a needle stop to stop the advance of the needle once it completes its path. Fig. 9B shows the single needle when it completes boring through the bone. If needle 302 (or a tip thereof) is detachable from needle arm 304 and is attached to a thread, the tip of needle 302 can be captured by a capture device (not shown), for example by friction, once it exits the bone.

Please amend the paragraph found at page 22, lines 22 through 34 to read:

BB In an alternative embodiment of the invention, the mechanism of Figs. 9 is used for a pair of needles, to avoid the need for the needle tips to interlock. In an embodiment of the invention, the hole is bored by two needles that meet in the bone. Once the needles meet, their rotation mechanism locks, rather than the needles. Then the rotation of one of the ~~[[needle]]~~ needles is continued over more than 90° (as shown in Fig. 9B for a single needle, for example). Since the mechanism is locked, the other needle is retracted along its bore. Once the advancing needle's tip is outside the bone, it can be engaged by the bone boring device and detached at its base (like needle 282 in Fig. 8D), so that when the bone boring device is retracted, a thread attached to the advancing needle is threaded through the bore in

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B3 the bone. Optionally, only one of the needles rotates more than 90°, however, based on the geometry, it might be required for both needles to travel at least an angle of 110°, for example. The needle that travels a longer path may be grasped in its middle, at least during the bone boring step, to prevent its distortion. However, this is not essential.

Please amend the paragraph found at page 25, line 32 through Page 26, line 5 to read:

B4 In various embodiments of the invention, selected ones of these steps may be performed sequentially or simultaneously. Even in cases when sequential steps are performed, the transition between the steps may be automatic, for example advancing a thread [[one]] when the needles are fully extended, or manual, for example requiring a user action (manually advancing a thread) or allowance (releasing a safety latch). In one example of sequential action, the two needles are advanced sequentially, rather than simultaneously. In some embodiments, this sequential motion may be used to assist one needle in cleaning out a groove (or thread) in the other needle.

Please amend the paragraph found at page 28, lines 1 through 5 to read:

B5 Fig. 14G illustrates a needle tip design similar to that of Fig. 14F, except that two slots [[457]] 477 are defined between a volume 458 in a needle 450 and an incline portion 454 of the needle. The two slots are nearby, defining a flexible tab 455 between them. Tab 455 can, for example, [[provided]] provide an elasticity or plasticity in an aperture 452, to engage the other needle tip.

Please amend the paragraph found at page 36, lines 1 through 8 to read:

B6 Another class of uses is treating fractures of bones. In one example, small bones, such as wrist bones may be immobilized or prevented [[form]] from moving apart by threading them together. Optionally, first a channel is formed in each bone and then the bones are sutured to each other (or to soft tissue, such as ligaments). Further, in cases where there are many bone fragments, such as in skull injuries or in cases of shattered jaw bones, the fragments may be stitched together. In some cases it is advantageous for the needles to oppose each other (180 degrees), possibly traveling in straight lines towards each other. Optionally, a large radius of rotation around the hinge approximates such straight lines.

Please amend the paragraph found at page 36, line 31 through page 37, line 2 to read:

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Additionally, the above device may be used for tacking, which is a method where a suture or other object is attached to a bone by its being pressed between a tack and the bone. A more complete description of tacking can be found in PCT [[patent]] international publication [[application]] number [[PCT/IL00/00012 filed January 8, 2000]] WO 00/40158 published July 13, 2000, [[by applicant Influence Medical Systems Ltd.,]] and titled, "Tack Device", the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.